CLAIMS

This listing of the claims replaces all prior versions of claims in the application.

1.   (Previously Presented) A system that regulates access to a distributed computing platform comprising:

a component that analyzes an application that requests access to the distributed computing platform, the component determines a level of access to the distributed computing platform and applies a trust level to the application corresponding to the determined level of access; and

a component that compares the applied trust level of the application with a trust level of a module called by the application and regulates access of the application to the distributed computing platform based at least in part upon the comparison.

2.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, the component that analyzes the application providing for inheritance of the trust level.

3.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, the component that analyzes the application providing for marking the application with at least one of states: (1) fully trusted, (2) run restricted, and (3) fail to load.

4.   (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the component is stored in a Read Only Memory (ROM) in the platform.

5.   (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the component is part of an operating system.

6.   (Cancelled).

7.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the functionality of one or more Application Programming Interface (API) calls, when called by the application, are selectively restricted.

2

8.   (Original) The system of claim 7, wherein selectively restricting the functionality of the one or more API calls includes restricting the functionality to read functions.

9.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 8, wherein selectively restricting the functionality of the one or more API calls includes terminating the application.

10.   (Previously Presented) A system for regulating access to a distributed computing platform, comprising:

    means for determining a trust level for an application, the application requesting access to the distributed computing platform;

    means for applying the trust level to the application to regulate access to the distributed computing platform; and

    means for regulating access of the application to the distributed computing platform by analyzing a trust level of a module called by the application.

11.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 10 further comprising means for applying the trust level to one or more modules called by the application.

12.   (Previously Presented) A method for regulating access to a distributed computing platform, comprising the steps of:

    determining a trust level for a first module called by an application, the application requesting access to the distributed computing platform; and

    regulating access of the application to the distributed computing platform based at least in part upon the determined level of trust for the first module.

13.   (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein determining the trust level for the first module further comprises the step of marking the first module with at least one of states: (1) fully trusted, (2) run restricted, and (3) fail to load.

14.   (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein determining the trust level for the first module further comprises transmitting the first module to a verification program.

3

15.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12 wherein regulating access to the distributed computing platform further comprises selectively aborting calls made to one or more APIs.

16.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12 wherein regulating access to the distributed computing platform further comprises selectively terminating the first module.

17.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12 wherein a program for determining the trust level for the first module is stored in a ROM in the platform.

18.   (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein the logic for applying the trust level to regulate access to the platform is stored in a ROM in the platform.

19.   (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein the trust level may be inherited.

20.   (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein the trust level may be applied to one or more second modules called by the first module.

4